

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FLOREN 00036 271143Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /069 W

----- 046558

R 271230Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1275

UNCLAS FLORENCE 0036

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT IT

SUBJ: TUSCANY SOCIALISTS CONCLUDE REGIONAL CONGRESS

1. IN PREPARATION FOR NATIONAL CONGRESS FEB. 4, SOCIALISTS (PSI) HELD 3 DAY REGIONAL CONGRESS IN FLORENCE JAN. 22-24. 282 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 38,000 TUSCAN PSI MEMBERS FOLLOWED PATTERN OF PROVINCIAL MEETINGS WHERE PRE-ARRANGED AGREEMENTS WERE RATIFIED BY DELEGATES IN MEETINGS DESIGNED TO SHOW UNITY OF PARTY.

2. DEMARTIANO REGIONAL SECRETARY VON BERGER WAS CONFIRMED IN POST. HIS ADDRESS, WHICH STRESSED LINE OF PARTY TO PUSH FOR 'SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE' APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY CONGRESS. VON BERGER AND PSI REGIONAL PRESIDENT LAGORIO IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL PROBLEMS STRESSED THAT THE LINE OF THE PSI WAS 'OPNNNESS' TO ALL DEMOCRATIC FORCES CURRENTLY IN OPPOSITION TO PSI/PCI REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. BOTH MEN ALSO STRESSED PLANNED REVIEW (VERIFICA) OF ACTIVITIES OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL BE MADE BY PSI AFTER FIRST 300 DAYS OF NEW ASSEMBLY TO DETERMINE HOW GOVERNMENT IS WORKING AND WHAT CHANGES, IF ANY, ARE NEEDED.

3. THIS EFFORT PLANNED TO EMPHASIZE AUTONOMY OF PSI WITHIN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COALITION AND LAGORIO STATED PSI WILL NEVER BE USED IN TUSCANY AS MERE PEDESTAL TO PROVIDE PCI WITH WAY TO POWER. LAGORIO ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT CENTER-LEFT FINISHED 'FOR GOOD' AND PSI WOULD NEVER GIVE SUPPORT TO ANY GOVERNMENT

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THAT WOULD DEFEND ECONOMIC PROGRAM ANNOUNCED LAST DEC. 23.

4. MAKE UP OF REGIONAL DIRECTORSHIP CONFIRMED TUSCAN DE-MARTINIANI AS PREDOMINANT CURRENT WITH AUTONOMISTS DISTANT SECOND.

5. COMMENT: HIGH LEVEL SOURCE IN PARTY INDICATED THAT CONGRESS HAD BEEN PRE-PLANNED TO GIVE PSI GOOD IMAGE AS UNITED PARTY. TO ENSURE THAT THIS SCENARIO WAS FOLLOWED, ALL VOTING DONE IN PUBLIC WITH RAISING OF HANDS. RESULTING UNANIMITY OF OPINION THEREFORE NO SURPRISE. GORDON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALISM, PARTY MEETINGS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976FLOREN00036
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760030-0831
From: FLORENCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760119/aaaaaqde.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2005 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TUSCANY SOCIALISTS CONCLUDE REGIONAL CONGRESS
TAGS: PINT, IT, PSI
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006